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KINYA WASHINO

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25006

7590

04/02/2010

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EXAMINER

DIEP, NHON THANH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2621

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 2/8/2010 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With regard to the applicant's argument that: "None of the passages indicated above teaches a digital monitoring and recording system or method that includes displaying digitized images in separate windows using a first set of temporal and spatial parameters and converting the video source images into a data storage format using a second set of temporal and spatial parameters associated with each image; and storing the converted images (Remarks, pages 2-3)." Or "There is no disclosure of varying the dimensions and the rate at which a particular image is stored in accordance with one of the externally derived commands (Remarks, page 3)."" or "The combination of the Boerger and Lobodzinski references or the combination of the Boerger, Lobodzinski and Toyoshima does not teach or disclose varying the dimensions and the rate at which a particular image is stored in accordance with one of the externally derived commands (Remarks, pages 4-5)."

2. The examiner respectfully disagrees. Figures 8-10 show a selection of some examples of split screen combinations of large pictures (col. 8, ln. 62-64), and "at every location, also the participant's own image can be displayed as a complete or full screen image or a mixture of split screen picture arrangement on individual monitors" (col. 4, ln. 6-9), or "This equipment is assigned to the participating locations 25 always for the duration of video conference and it substantially comprises large storage 5 and small

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picture storage 6" (col. 7, ln. 12-15), or specifically, "The problem of how to make the video signals coming from the individual sources available in the central station, as both a complete or full screen picture, or a split screen picture composed of a large picture and at least one coarsened picture, i.e., reduced or small picture, can be solved, as to the hardware, with picture storage units, for example, having a storage capacity exceeding that of a large picture, i.e. a full screen picture. That is, the large pictures and small pictures are stored already in the way or size in which they are later to be available" (col. 3, ln. 52-62) and **"Parallel to large picture storage 5, a coarsened or small picture, i.e. one whose number of picture element is two-dimensional reduced (width and height)... and supplied to a small picture storage 6"** (col. 7, ln. 37-43). The fact that a coarsened or small picture is two-dimensionally reduced and supplied to a small picture storage, as interpreted by the examiner, in connection with "A central station is connected to all of the participant terminals and includes means for receiving source signals from and transmitting sink or received signals to all the participant terminals as well as storage units for storing in each case a large size picture and at least one small coarse grained picture for each active participant location or terminal, the central station having a programmed processor for receiving control signals from the participant terminals to control the display assembly and split screen of large and small or coarse pictures at the participant terminals individually" (col. 2, ln. 39-50), meet the limitation of "a digital monitoring and recording system or method that includes displaying digitized images in separate windows using a first set of temporal and spatial parameters and converting the video source images into a data storage

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format using a second set of temporal and spatial parameters associated with each image; and storing the converted images” or “varying the dimensions and the rate at which a particular image is stored in accordance with one of the externally derived commands”.

Having answered to all of the applicant’s arguments, the examiner maintains the rejections of record and the rejections are repeated as below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 8-15, 25-32, 34-36, 41-42, 44-46, 49-51, 55-57, 60-61, and 75-76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Boerger et al (US 4,650,929) as set forth in the previous Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-7, 17-18, 33, 38, 43, 47, 53-54, 62-65, 67-71 and 73-74 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boerger et al, in view of Lobodzinski (US 5,619,995) as set forth in the previous Office Action.

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7. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boerger et al, in view of Lobodzinski (US 5,619,995), and further in view of Toyoshima (US 5,229,850) as set forth in the previous Office Action.

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nhon T. Diep whose telephone number is 571-272-7328. The examiner can normally be reached on m-f.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on 571-272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Nhon T Diep/

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Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2621